Groundwater Management Plans	**Consensus Date**
1. Designated Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) are required to have Groundwater Management Plans.	**4/6/06**
2. The State should encourage coordinated groundwater management planning in order to avoid or reduce future groundwater problems	**6/1/06**
3. *Groundwater management planning needs to balance the need for local control of water systems and land-use zoning with the lack of synchronization of water resource boundaries with political boundaries. (McCartney)*	
4. *Groundwater management planning must integrate water system planning with land use planning. (SEWRPC)*	
5. *Groundwater management planning must recognize the need to:*	
a. *Preserve important groundwater recharge areas*	
b. *Protect existing and future well zone-of-contribution areas*	
c. *Promote local zoning to protect areas most susceptible to groundwater contamination*	
6. Different planning entities may do the planning in different parts of the state.	**4/6/06**
a. *The governor should designate a planning agency for each GMA based on the department's recommendation. Recommended planning agencies will:*	
i. *Be a regional planning commission or a representative organization, that includes elected officials, having jurisdiction in the GMA*	
ii. *Be supported by resolutions from local government units*	
iii. *Be technically capable to complete the plan in a timely manner*	
b. *The department can withdraw or modify the designation of a designated agency for cause with public input.*	
c. *If the department withdraws an agency designation, then it must designate an alternative planning agency.*	
7. *To facilitate proactive planning and mitigation strategies, a process short of GMA-designation should be developed to identify areas that are likely to have future groundwater problems. These Groundwater Areas of Concern (GACs) would be designated as follows: (GMA TAC)*	
Phase 1: The DNR will identify areas of concern based on water imbalance. Using	

available data, available flow models, or other quantitative methods, they will identify areas of concern as those which meet one or both of these criteria:	
1. Where the existing or projected ground water pumping exceeds the sum of the natural recharge and inflows to an aquifer	
2. Where the average annual ground water discharge to all surface waters (streams, lakes, wetlands and springs) has been reduced by > than 2% for a sustained period.	
Phase 2: Areas of concern identified in Phase 1 will be assessed to determine whether they should be identified as ground water management areas (GMAs). The assessing body (undefined herein) gathers existing data, including water levels, surface water flows, inventories of wells, springs, wetlands, and more. If an area meets at least one of the following criteria, it will be designated a GMA.	
1. Drawdown of ground water levels in excess of 10% of the saturated thickness of an unconfined water supply aquifer or the elimination of the potentiometric head at any location in a confined water supply aquifer.	
2. Reduction of average annual base flow to all surface waters in the area > 2%	
3. Ground water withdrawals are causing unacceptable ecological impacts	
4. Ground water withdrawals are causing water quality degradation in water supply aquifer	
Phase 3: Once a site is identified as a GMA, then the structure and process identified in the draft NR kicks in	
OR *The Legislature should encourage coordinated and proactive groundwater management planning by providing renewable funding for the planning and management process. (McCartney)*	
8. The Groundwater Management Plan will manage all of the aquifers in the area concurrently to minimize ecological impact, to limit impacts on base flow of streams, and to sustain groundwater quality and quantity for future generations.	**4/6/06**
9. *Groundwater management should balance environmental, economic, and social benefits for the long term. These benefits can be balances by transient or buffered management practices to allow flexibility and an adaptive approach. (John Jansen)*	
10. *GMAs must have coordinated management and optimized operation of high capacity wells.*	
a. *Cooperative management agreements for collaborative regional management should be mandated between water utilities and high capacity well owners in GMAs.*	
b. *DNR should be able to withhold well permits based on lack of consistency with approved/adopted management plans.*	
c. *A conflict resolution process must be established to resolve inevitable disagreements among participants.*	
11. *Groundwater management planning in SE Wisconsin must recognize the constraints of regulations and policies relating to the ability to obtain water*	

from the Great Lakes Basin and the groundwater aquifers. (SEWRPC)	
12. The requirements of a GMP will be established by Administrative Rule.	**4/6/06**
a. GMPs maybe different in different areas but all GMPs must meet requirements set by the administrative rule.	**4/6/06**
b. The administrative rule will identify the type of information that must be reviewed and considered in the GMP.	**4/6/06**
c. Best Management Practices that must be considered in the GMP will be identified in the administrative rule.	**4/6/06**
d. The rule will identify the standard that is being managed to.	**4/6/06**
e. The GMP must include a monitoring component.	**6/1/06**
f. The GMP should include annual progress reporting to the DNR.	
g. The GMP must include a process for adaptive management.	**6/1/06**
h. *The GMP should include a public participation process. (McCartney)*	
i. *The GMP should include: (SEWRPC)*	
i. *an inventory of the study area: groundwater resources, water supply systems, and applicable laws and regulations*	
ii. *analyses and forecasts – population, household, economic activity, land use, and water use; existing water supply facilities; groundwater analysis*	
iii. *preparation, test, and evaluation of alternative plans*	
iv. *plan selection*	
v. *plan implementation*	
vi. *component to quantify impacts from groundwater use (Nauta)*	
j. *The GMP should identify recharge areas and require that the net effect of land use changes not adversely affect groundwater recharge.*	
i. *Performance standard is no net loss of recharge*	
ii. Methods of achieving could vary (limit development, provide compensatory recharge, supplement current demands through water reuse, etc.)	
13. *High capacity well permit applications in a GMA should include a quantitative analysis of the impact of the drawdown of the proposed well.*	

(McCartney)	
14. The Legislature should provide a structure for renewable funding for the long-term operation and maintenance of groundwater level and surface water level monitoring and data management systems throughout the state. The monitoring effort should consist of two elements; a base level monitoring system that covers the state, and targeted monitoring systems in existing or potential GMAs that are designed to support the specific needs and management objectives of the area. The targeted monitoring programs should be designed with substantial support and guidance from the GMA or potential GMA.	***4/6/06***
15. *The Legislature should designate the following additional areas as GMAs:*	
a. *Dane County*	
b. *The Central Sands area*	
c. *St. Croix County*	
16. *Cost-of-service disparities among utilities must be addressed by the PSC, especially upon interconnection and sharing of services under cooperative agreements.*	
17. *Guidance manuals should be developed for high capacity well owners/operators addressing the issues discussed in the Task Force Report (Task E).*	
18. *Model management agreements and ordinances should be prepared for use by cooperating organizations (water utilities and well-owners).*	
19. Groundwater management plans will be written documents developed with the participation of local government units, owners of high capacity wells, and other interested parties.	
20. Groundwater management plans will identify groundwater management goals specific to the GMA.	
21. The department will approve or disapprove each groundwater management plan after the public hearing for the plan.	
22. Five-year updates of groundwater management plans are required and will be approved or disapproved by the department.	
23. If a previously approved plan conflicts with state law, the department may rescind its approval.	
24. A groundwater management agency with an approved and adopted plan is empowered to collect fees and assessments for groundwater management activities.	